MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1967

District Council Offices,
MASHAM

H. DIGGLES
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

North Riding of Yorkshire

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman (Councillor H.H. Hardy to 20.5.67
Councillor E.S. Bulmer from 21.5.67)

The Vice-Chairman (Councillor T. Reynolds to 20.5.67
Councillor J. Robinson from 21.5.67)

and all the members of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health.

Dr. H. Diggles, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Area Health Office,
The Wensleydale Secondary Modern School,
LEYBURN, Yorks.
Telephone: Leyburn 2125.

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

A. Nunn, C.R.S.H.,
Council Offices,
MASHAM, Yorks.
Telephone: Masham 378.

Area Health Office,

LEYBURN

1968.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE

MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report on the health of the District for the year 1967

In 1967 the state of public health in Masham was very satisfactory. There were no maternal deaths, stillbirths or deaths from tuberculosis.

The provision of adequate sewerage and sewage disposal schemes in the district is satisfactory.

The water supply is controlled by the Northallerton and the Dales Water Board.

In conclusion, I should like to express my appreciation to the Members and Officers of the Council for the help and support I have received from them during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

H. DIGGLES,

Medical Officer of Health.

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SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	25,995
Population (Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1967)	1,600
Population (1931 Census)	2,024
Population (1951 Census)	1,738
Number of Inhabited Houses 1967	613
Rateable Value (at 1st April 1967)	£69,302
Product of a penny rate (1st April 1967)	£270.754

(b) VITAL STATISTICS (AS SUPPLIED BY REGISTRAR GENERAL).

	MALES			FEMALES		
	Total	legitimate	illegitimate	Total	legitimate	illegitimate
LIVE BIRTHS	5	5	-	15	13.	2
STILL BIRTHS	-	-	-	-	-	-
INFANT DEATHS						
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 1 week	-	-	-	-	-	-

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

Cause of Death	Males	Females	Total
Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
Other Malignant & Lymphatic Neoplasms	1	1	2
Other Heart Disease	1	1	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	4	1	5
Coronary Disease, Angina	4	5	9
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	-	1
Other Circulatory Disease	-	1	1
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases	-	3	3
	13	13	26

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948

It was not necessary to take action under Section 47 of the above Act which deals with the compulsory removal to a place of safety of persons in need of care and attention.

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Ambulance Facilities.

The North Riding of Yorkshire County Council supply ambulance services from their station at Thirsk.

Hospital Services.

Local Hospital accommodation is provided by the Northallerton Management Committee of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. In addition, a number of residents receive both in-patient and out-patient treatment at hospitals under the control of the Ripon and Harrogate Management Committee of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board.

Nursing in the Home.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery services are under the general direction of the County Council with the day-to-day administration dealt with by the Wensleydale Area Local Health Sub-Committee through the District Medical Officer. One District Nurse/Midwife operates in the area.

Domestic Health Service.

This service is under the general direction of the County Council with the day-to-day administration dealt with by the Wensleydale Area Health Sub-Committee.

SECTION C.

Water Supplies.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

SECTION D.

Housing.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

SECTION E.

Meat and Other Foods.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section.

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Infectious Diseases Notified.	Males.	Females.	Total.
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	1	-	1

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR AND SURVEYOR.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my report on the fifth year of my service as your Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

Two principal events are to be noted from the diary of events during the year, one was the serious outbreak of foot and mouth disease in the country. The principal effect of this on the Council's work was the need to eliminate all visits to farm premises, where possible dealing with matters needing attention by telephone. The refuse service continued to operate, but the vehicle did not enter farms. Farmers co-operated by bringing their refuse containers to the roadside until the emergency was declared to be over, when the normal service was resumed. The other principal event was the purchase of Maple Creek with a view to the construction of group of warden-supervised old persons' dwellings. As the Council has no Architect it fell to me to do the necessary preliminary surveys, research reading and contact with the Ministry of Housing and other interested authorities, all of which proved to be very time consuming.

During the summer satisfactory results were obtained on samples taken at Masham Sewage Works. This indicates that the works can produce the required results, but tests taken on crude sewage indicate that, at times, a very heavy load is placed on them.

The presentation of this report gives me the opportunity, once again, of expressing my thanks to the Council, the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk and his staff and also to the Council's new workman who, though much of the work he was called upon to carry out was new to him, put great effort into his duties.

I have, Gentlemen, the honour to be
Your obedient Servant,
ARTHUR NUNN,
Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

WATER SUPPLIES.

Water supplies in the area are, principally, under the control of the Northallerton & The Dales Water Board, who supply some 537 of the occupied dwellings in the district. The remaining 74 are supplied either from individual private supplies, from a supply controlled by the Swinton Estate, or in the case of dwellings associated with their reservoirs, by the Leeds Corporation and the Claro Water Board.

Alterations to schemes during the year.

At the end of the year, due to a number of below standard samples from the Ellingstring supply, consideration was being given to the installation of a small drip-feed chlorinator at the Ellingstring reservoir.

Quantity of Water.

On a steadily rising demand there has been a sufficient supply at all times.

Quality of Water.

A total of 81 samples was taken during the year, 80 by the Water Board in accordance with the agreed procedure. Of this total 10 failed to reach Class I (though two of them were taken from the same supply on the same day) One has been disregarded in the table following. In all cases follow-up samples were taken until the source of contamination had cleared up.

The samples failing Class I were as follows:

Supply	Class II	Class III	Class IV
Ellingstring	2	-	2
Masham	-	1	2
Ilton	-	-	1
Aldburgh Hall (Private)	1	-	-

Generally speaking samples in the lower classes occur at times of heavy rainfall when contamination would appear to be caused by the surfeit of water at the springs.

Distribution of Water.

The table overleaf gives the number of occupied houses in each parish and the means of water supply. All supplies are piped into the house.

Parish	Northallerton & The Dales W. B.	Leeds Corp.n Claro W.B.	Private.
Burton-on-Yore	26	-	11
Colsterdale	-	-	5
Ellingstring	25	-	-
Ellingtons	22	-	1
Fearby	52	-	2
Healey	20	5	18
Ilton-cum-Pott	9	2	12
Swinton with Warthermarske	21	-	17
Masham	362	-	1
	537	7	67

Inspections.

24 visits were made in connection with water supplies and where complaints could not be dealt with these were referred to the Water Board's officer.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Sewers.

All premises capable of being connected to sewers at reasonable expense have been connected. Only in the scattered communities is there no sewerage system. As time passes those houses without satisfactory septic tanks are being provided with them as the houses are improved by the owners with the aid of grants.

Sewage Works.

Masham: For the first time for some years effluent samples taken by Officers of the Yorkshire Ouse and Hull River Board indicated effluents complying with the recommendation of the Royal Commission. Two such samples are recorded, one in April one in June. One occasion in July, when the incoming sewage was sampled, gave results of Solids 263 and B.O.D. 600. On the same day two industrial effluents were sampled giving results of Solids 256 and 1020 and B.O.D.s of 1740 and 1200 respectively.

Fearby: This small plant, again, worked very satisfactorily.

Ellingstring: Continuing attention is given to this plant but time has not permitted anything more than routine maintenance.

Inspections:

Visits in connection with sewerage and drainage were:

Masham Sewers and Sewage Works	253
Fearby Sewers and Sewage Works	23
Ellingstring Sewers and Sewage Works.	14
Masham Ejector Station	10
Drains tested	38
Drains cleared	19

LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses, nor Houses in Multiple Occupation in the district.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Our contractors have again provided the usual efficient and courteous service.

The frequency of the service continues as last year, with a weekly collection in Masham, fortnightly in the villages and a quarterly call to remote dwellings to remove those items which occupiers cannot dispose of themselves.

The tip has been levelled this year, giving added compaction and increasing its rapidly reducing life. Periodical treatments are given for rat infestation when evidence of their presence is either found or reported from nearby farmers.

HOUSING.

The general standard of housing in the district continues to be satisfactory. Good use is still being made of the Improvement and Standard Grant facilities.

Private building on a small site gained some momentum this year, six new dwellings being completed.

In mid-year the Council commenced negotiations for the purchase of Maple Creek and the land attached, with a view to the provision of a number of grouped dwellings, with warden supervision, for old persons.

Outline planning permission was obtained and research commenced into the various standards of accommodation which were being currently provided. Contact was made with the Ministry of Housing Regional Architect who visited the site and discussed the proposal. It was decided that Housing Consultants would be approached, two firms arranged visits to contracts they had completed. A side benefit of these visits was that members gained

much knowledge of this type of scheme. The two interested companies were invited to submit draft schemes, but these had not been received by the end of the year.

Statistics in connection with Housing:

No. of occupied houses in the district	611
No. of new dwellings completed	6
No. of full inspections made	6
No. of houses inspected for defects	15
No. of houses closed.	-
No. of houses demolished	-

Improvement Grants:

No. of visits of inspection and interviews		47
No. of Grant Applications:	Standard	6
	Discretionary	3
No. of houses improved with Grant Aid:		
	Standard	12
	Discretionary	1

These figures indicate a period when work outstanding from previous years was completed and currently approved work carried out in a much shorter period. It has been possible to report to the Council all applications received within two days of the meeting together with recommendations, thus cutting down delay to an absolute minimum.

Council Housing.

The Council's stock of houses etc., remains as last year:

4 Four-bedroom houses;
58 Three-bedroom houses;
18 Two-bedroom bungalows; and
3 One-bedroom bungalows.

These are visited weekly by the Council's Officers during rent collection, and an additional 47 visits were made in connection with specific repairs.

BUILDING REGULATIONS.

The year showed a considerable amount of building work being planned, resulting in:

No. of Plans submitted to and approved by the Council	35
No. of visits to work in progress	80

FOOD AND DRUGS.

A total of 440 animals were slaughtered for human consumption at the one slaughterhouse in the district. All were inspected and for this purpose 57 visits were made to the premises.

Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis.

No cases of either of these conditions were found.

Meat and Food Condemned.

The following amounts of foodstuffs were condemned as unfit for human consumption, or unsaleable:

Butcher's meat	105 lbs
Canned meat	21 lbs.

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus.

This is dealt with by the County Council.

The Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963.

There are no egg pasteurisation plants in the district.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

64 visits were paid to premises in the district in connection with these regulations, 4 minor contraventions were found and all were remedied without the need for formal action.

Details required by paragraph 8(c) of Ministry of Health Circular No. 1/68 are:

	Butchers.	Bakehouse, Grocer, Cafe.	General Dealers
No. in district:	2	3	6
Complying with Regulation 16	2	3	6
Subject to Regulation 19	2	2	1
Complying with Regulation 19	2	2	1

RODENT AND INSECT INFESTATION.

A free service for the eradication of rats and mice is offered to occupiers of domestic properties and advice and assistance given to others.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

No. of permanent residential sites	1
No. of seasonal licences (of which only 1 is in use).	2

CLEAN AIR ACT.

Only two industrial chimneys exist in the town. On no occasion has action on account of emissions been necessary.

FACTORIES.

The following details on factories are the relevant sections of the tables to be provided to the Minister of Labour under Section 153(1) of the Factories Act 1961

1. Inspections.

	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
(ii) Factories in which Section 7 is enforced by L.A.	17	28	0	0
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced	3	70	0	0

2. Cases in which defects were found:

No cases were found needing reference to the Ministry nor were any references received from him.

Outworkers.

There are no known outworkers in the district and no cases were notified.

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963.

23 premises are registered under the Act, employing 102 persons. A total of 88 visits were made.

One accident was reported, involving slipping on cellar steps. As a temporary measure the steps were made safer, but at a later date the premises were altered and the cellars filled in.

OTHER VISITS.

In addition to the details reported above, the following visits were made in connection with other matters administered by the Council:

Interviews.	85
Hairdressers	4
Petroleum Regulations	9
Planning Acts	3
Council Property	17
Parks and Gardens	27